SHRI HARIN PATHAK : Sir, I have given a detailed reply about the two Core Committees, which have already been constituted, one on 19th February, 2003, and the other on 20th February, 2003. The first meeting of the first core group was held on 3rd March, 2003. So, these two Core Groups are in a very preliminary stage and I would like to tell the Hon. Member that as soon as these Committees sit and deliberate and come to some conclusion, and come out with recommendations, I would, definitely, inform the Member.

श्री आर. पी. गोयनका : महोदय, मेरा दूसरा सवाल यह है कि उन कमेटी की रिकमंडेशंस आएंगी, फिर आप उसे कंसीडर करेंगे, लेकिन उस पर अमल कब तक करेंगे? आप उस के लिए समय निर्धारित करेंगे या ऐसे ही रखेंगे?

श्री हरिन पाठक : सभापति जी, यह बहुत कांप्रिहेंसिव सब्जैक्ट है। महोदय, एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव रिफॉर्म्स एंड सोशल सेक्टर रिफॉर्म्स - ये दानों ही इतने व्यापक विषय हैं कि जो पूरी सरकार के गवर्नर्स से सीधे संबंध रखते हैं। तो जैसे ही इन दो कोर ग्रुप्स की रिकमंडेशन आएगी, सरकार निश्चित रूप से सकारात्मक तरीके से उस पर अमल करने के बारे में सोचेगी।

श्री सभापति : प्रश्न संख्या - 467.

Houses constructed in Karnataka

*467. SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA : Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the assistance limit fixed for rural housing for each house as Rs. 20,000/- in the plains and Rs. 22,000/- for hilly and difficult areas, are insufficient for construction of houses as the materials costs have increased;

(b) if so, the steps Government propose to take in this regard;

(c) the details of amount sanctioned and released to the State of Karnataka under various Housing Schemes for the last three years; and

(d) the details of houses constructed in the State for the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR) : (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

1. The present level of assistance per unit under the Indira Awaas Yojana is Rs. 20,000 in plain areas and Rs. 22,000 in difficult and hilly areas. Assistance under the (IAY) is expected to be supplemented by the beneficiaries' own contribution in terms of material, labour and other resources. However, a proposal for revision in the quantum of assistance to be provided by the Government under the Scheme has already been made.

2. The details of the amounts sanctioned, released and houses constructed in the State of Karnataka under various Housing Schemes of the Ministry of Rural Development for the last three years (2000-2001, 2001-2002 and 2002-2003) are as under :

Name of Scheme	Amount Sanctioned (Rs. in Lakh)	Amount Released (Rs. in Lakh)	Houses Constructed (In Nos.)
Indira Awaas Yojana/ Credit-cum-Subsidy Scheme	18242.40	14334.44	117758
Innovative Stream for Rural Housing and Habitat Development	97.42	48.57	Report awaited

SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA : Sir, rural housing is a serious problem and it should be addressed with commitment and urgency. But here, Rs. 20,000/- is being given for plain areas and Rs. 22,000/- is being given for hilly areas. The cost of material has gone up and it is just sufficient to put up walls, and not the roofing. Now, the Minister has said that they are going to revise the quantum of assistance, but he has not, specifically, come out with any figures. Under these circumstances, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether this Government is interested to see that the homeless people are provided with the required amount, which comes to about Rs. 40,000/- to Rs. 50,000/- for building a normal residential house which can accommodate a family consisting of four members, husband, wife, and two children. Otherwise, nobody can construct a house with a meagre allotment

of Rs. 20,000/- or Rs. 22,000/- Is this government ready to address the housing problems of the people?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, I appreciate the concern of the Hon. Member. Actually, the Government of India has taken up this issue with the Planning Commission and asked to revise the rates. We have written a letter to the Planning Commission that for plain areas the amount should be raised from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 25,000 and for hilly areas the amount should be raised from Rs. 22,000 to Rs. 27,500. It requires an additional allocation of Rs. 330 crores and we have already written to the Planning Commission in that respect. I am very happy to inform this August House that, in the last 14 years of the Indira Awaas Yojana, up to 1998, the total number of houses constructed has been 44.91 lakhs. In the last five years, this Government has constructed 51.52 lakh houses.

SHRI H. K. JAVARE GOWDA : Sir, in the reply the Minister said that he was going to enhance the amont by Rs. 5,000 for hilly and difficult areas and by Rs. 2,000 for other areas. He also knows the difficulties in constructing the houses. Could it be possible to construct a house even with the proposed enhanced amount?

The second part of my question is specifically concerning Karnataka. The Minister has not given the clear picture. What is the amount allotted in the past three years? How many houses have been constructed already?

Another point which I am going to ask the Minister is : How many houseless people are there in Karnataka State? I would like to know whether the Central Government is going to give to the Karnataka State the assistance required.

MISS MABEL REBELLO : The Minister also comes from the same State.

श्री सभापति : ये दोनों मिले हुए तो नहीं हैं ?

SHRI ANANTH KUMAR : Sir, actuallly, in the written statement, I have already given the figures for the State of Karnataka. The total amount sanctioned was Rs. 182.42 crores. In the last three years, the amount released was Rs. 143.34 crores. In Karnataka, 1,75,758 houses have been constructed.